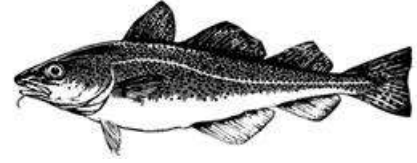


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



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**OPENING OF THE CHIGNIK AREA STATE-WATERS PACIFIC COD
SEASON FOR POT AND JIG GEAR
E.O. # 4-GF-22-12**

State waters of the Chignik Management Area (CMA) will open to Pacific cod fishing for vessels using pot and jig gear at 12:01 p.m. on October 12, 2012 following closure of the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA) Pacific cod federal/parallel B season for pot gear. A vessel operator participating in the CGOA federal/parallel B season must deliver their catch prior to participating in the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season.

Approximately 511,000 pounds of CMA guideline harvest level (GHL) are available for harvest during the state-waters season. The state-waters Pacific cod season will remain open until the GHL is reached or December 31, 2012, whichever occurs first.

An Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) superexclusive vessel registration for the CMA is required prior to targeting Pacific cod during the state-waters season. A vessel may not exceed 58 feet in overall length and may not use more than 60 pots or 5 mechanical jig machines. Buoy tags are required for all vessels using pot gear. Registration and buoy tags can be obtained by contacting the ADF&G office in Kodiak.

For more information, contact the Alaska Department of Fish & Game in Kodiak at 486-1840.